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South Dakota
Labor Bulletin

April 1990 Published May 1990

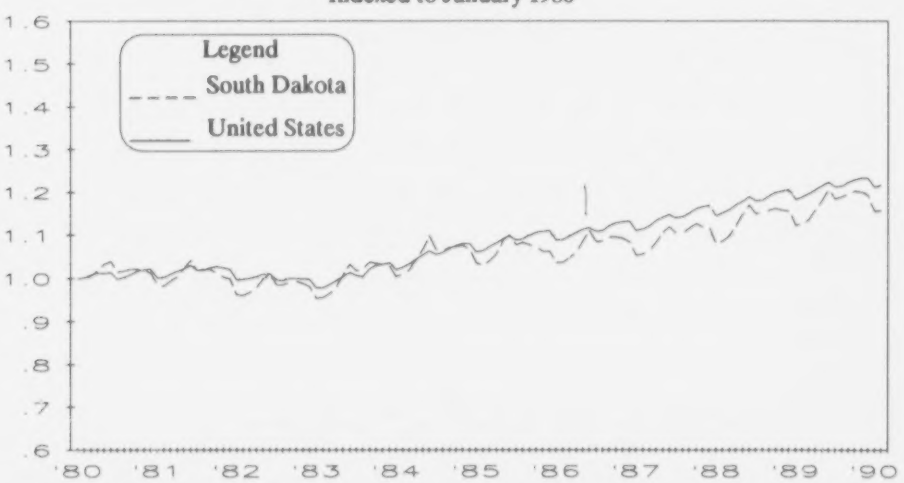
SD and US Employment-- an "apples-to-apples" comparison

One way of measuring the state's performance on the employment front is to compare statewide levels to national levels. But the large difference in the magnitude of the numbers makes comparison a bit ambiguous. For example, nonfarm employment in both South Dakota and the United States increased less than one percent from January to February of 1990. But what does that comparison really mean, considering the fact that the state's actual increase in employment was just 500, compared to a 506,000 actual jump in employment nationally?

One way of getting around an "apples-to-oranges" comparison like this is to index South Dakota and U.S. nonfarm employment levels. In this article, we will look at the performance of South Dakota's nonfarm employment levels as compared to the nation by indexing monthly employment estimates of each to January 1980 levels. In other words, the monthly employment estimates for South Dakota were divided by the state's January 1980 employment level; the monthly employment estimates for the United States were divided by the U.S. January 1980 employment level.

This allows for a more straightforward, "apples-to-apples" comparison. For example, we can say that South Dakota's nonfarm employment has performed somewhat more poorly than the nation's since January of 1980, with an index value of 1.16 in February 1990, compared to the nation's value of 1.22--without having to take the large difference of the employment bases into consideration. Because an index measures changes in employment from the same base, it also works well for comparisons over time. Again, differences in employment bases do not have to be considered.

Monthly Nonfarm Wage and Salaried Employment
Indexed to January 1980



Looking at the above graph of indexed monthly employment levels, we can see that there have only been three instances since 1980 when South Dakota ranked higher than the nation on the index for more than a month at a time. Those instances were the summer

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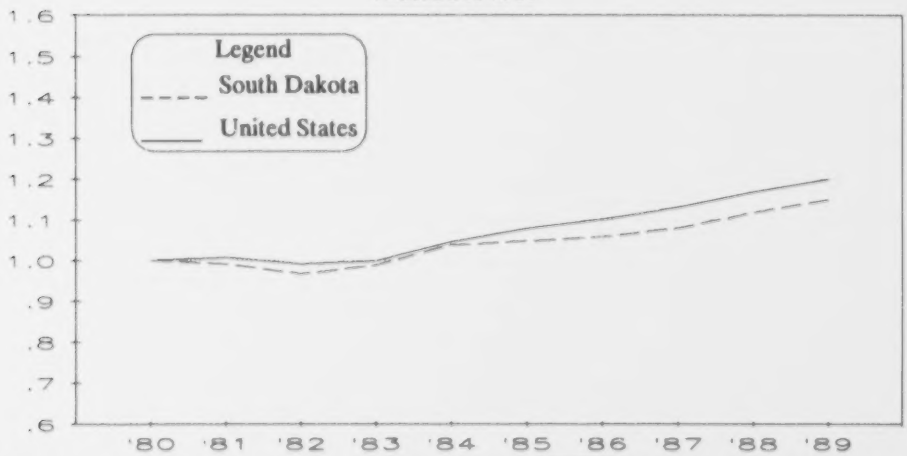
months of 1980, 1983 and 1984. In the 1980 and 1984 cases, the reason for South Dakota's shining performance was largely due to more marked seasonal increases in construction, retail trade and services which had a more pronounced effect on the state's employment levels than they had nationwide. The addition to June 1984 payrolls of workers for the primary election in South Dakota also gave the state's nonfarm employment levels a boost which did not occur nationwide.

In the 1983 case, South Dakota was experiencing rapid growth in the manufacturing and finance, insurance and real estate industries. Also, a strike which idled more than half a million communications workers nationwide had a much greater influence on autumn U.S. employment levels than on statewide levels.

Since 1985, South Dakota's overall lag behind the nation on the nonfarm employment index has become more pronounced. In fact, in just one month since 1985 has South Dakota ranked higher than the nation. That was in June of 1985, when seasonal employment gains again packed a bigger punch for South Dakota than they did for the nation.

Plotting indexed monthly employment levels of the state and the nation on a graph makes it easy to see differences in the seasonal patterns of the two. But because of the great volume of change in some of the industries' levels, it is sometimes difficult to see the overall trend. For this reason, annual average employment levels in South Dakota and the United States were also indexed--using the annual average 1980 employment levels as the base.

Annual Average Nonfarm Wage and Salaried Employment
Indexed to 1980



SD Pacing Nation Again Since 1987

The above graph of indexed annual average employment levels shows that South Dakota's nonfarm employment has lagged behind the nation for the most part since 1980. During the recessions of the early 1980s, both South Dakota and the nation performed poorly on the index, with declining employment levels. Both then started a recovery, with South Dakota bouncing back a bit faster between 1982 and 1983 and then closely mirroring the nation's performance between 1983 and 1984. A gap between the two developed in 1985 which continued to widen until recently. South Dakota has continued to fall behind the nation on the index, but the state's rate of growth has at least run more parallel to the nation's growth rate since 1987.

Considering these graphs together, it appears as though the greater extremity of the seasonal lows in South Dakota are perhaps to blame for slowing the state's momentum in keeping up with the overall upward trend which the nation has experienced.

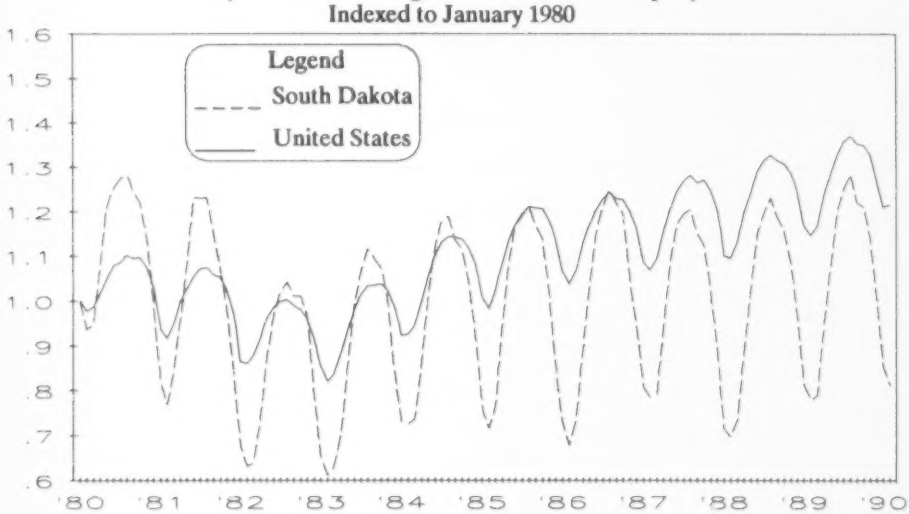
Clearly displaying the state's more extreme employment seasonality is performance of the construction industry on the index of monthly employment levels. In every year since 1980, the rapid October to February drop in construction employment has been much sharper, and the March to June rise has been much more dramatic in South Dakota than in the nation. The graph which shows this industry's performance on an annual basis shows that

during recessions of the early 1980s, employment in both South Dakota and the nation headed downward, with the slope being quite a bit steeper for the state. The nation's employment in the construction industry then picked up again, and has noted quite consistent growth since 1984. South Dakota's construction employment also recovered from the recessionary lows of the early 1980s, but growth has not been nearly as consistent or steady.

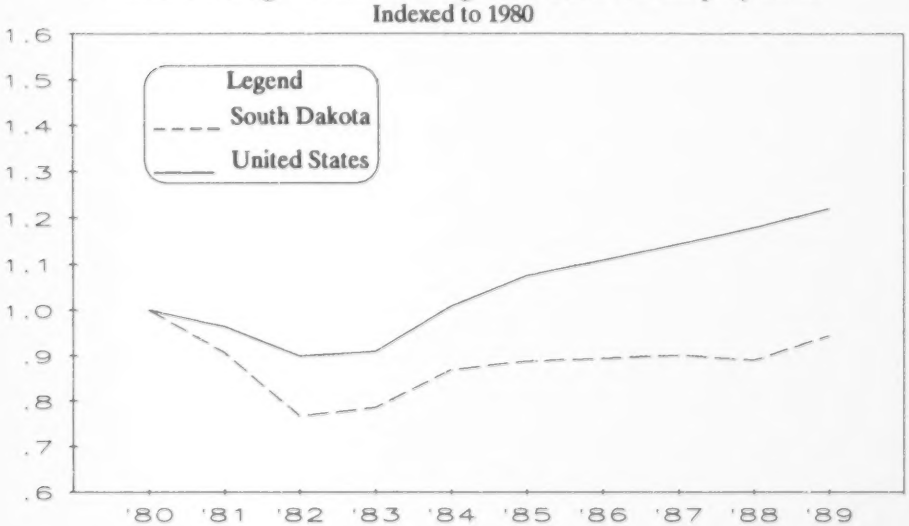
SD Construction Lag More Pronounced Since '87

It appears as though this gap between the state and nation has begun widening since 1987. Until 1987, seasonal employment highs noted by the state's construction industry on the employment index had equalled or exceeded the nation. But since 1987, the state has not even kept pace in those peak months; and the lows have become more extreme.

Construction Industry
Monthly Nonfarm Wage and Salaried Employment
Indexed to January 1980



Construction Industry
Annual Average Nonfarm Wage and Salaried Employment
Indexed to 1980

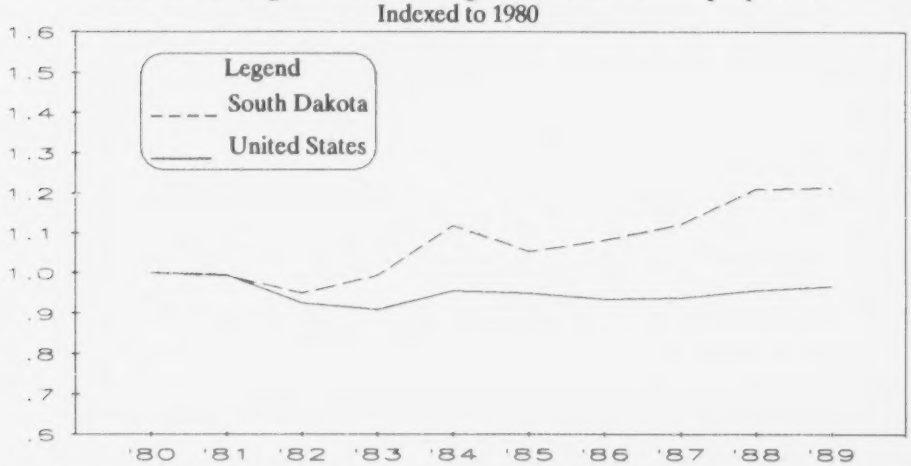


The industry in which South Dakota has diverged from the United States the most is in manufacturing, especially since 1983. In the early 1980s, the overall manufacturing employment patterns of the nation and the state tracked fairly closely. Beginning in late

1981 through 1982, the two were practically on the same downhill track, with manufacturing employment in both the state and the nation being heavily tied to the poor national economy and the recession.

But in 1983, the two had a parting of their ways, with the state recovering from the recession more rapidly than the nation. With the exception of 1985 when the state could not maintain the rapid manufacturing growth which it noted during 1984, the overall trend in manufacturing employment has been upward. Growth in the state's manufacturing industry since 1980 has been largely in the durable goods division, in which growth has been especially limited nationally. South Dakota escaped the blows dealt to the nation's steel, automobile, leather and tire manufacturers in the early 1980s.

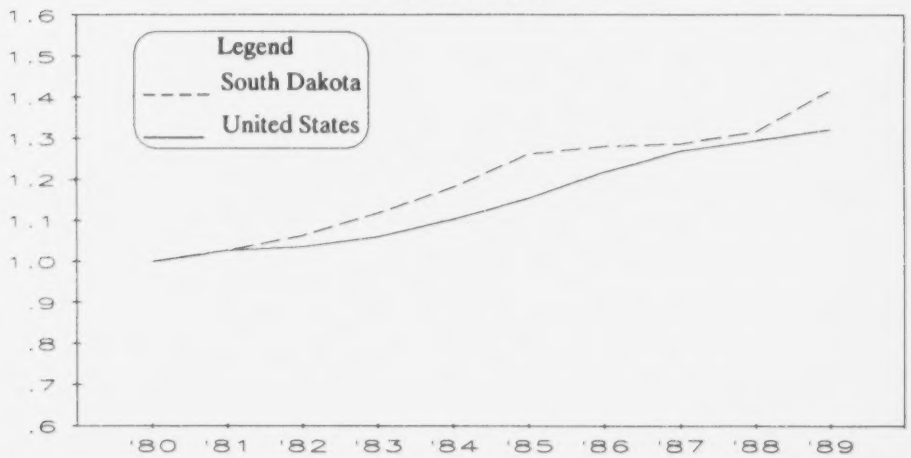
Manufacturing Industry
Annual Average Nonfarm Wage and Salaried Employment
Indexed to 1980



Hotter Growth for State's F.I.R.E. Industry

Besides manufacturing, the only other industry in which South Dakota has performed better than the nation on the employment index is finance, insurance and real estate. South Dakota pulled ahead of the nation in 1982 and has maintained a lead. The nation has noted fairly constant growth in this industry since 1982, but South Dakota's growth was much faster--especially during the 1982 to 1985 period. Growth in the state then slowed some to 1988, paralleling the nation's growth rate from 1987 to 1988. Deregulation in the banking industry allowed several nonfarm business credit firms to relocate in South Dakota, which went through a period of rapid growth and then settled into a market niche.

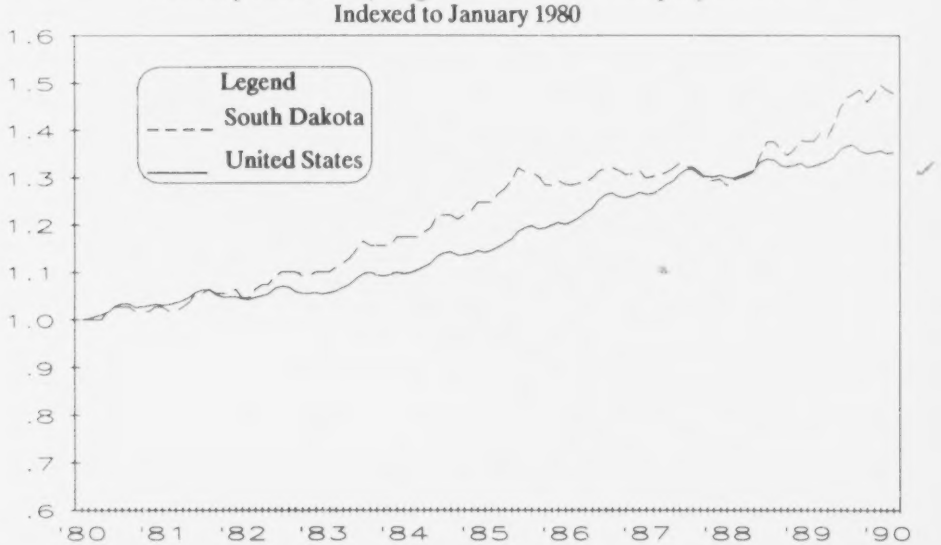
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate Industry
Annual Average Nonfarm Wage and Salaried Employment
Indexed to 1980



SD and US share cyclical F.I.R.E. patterns

As the graph of indexed monthly levels below shows, the state follows the cyclical patterns of the nation quite closely in this industry.

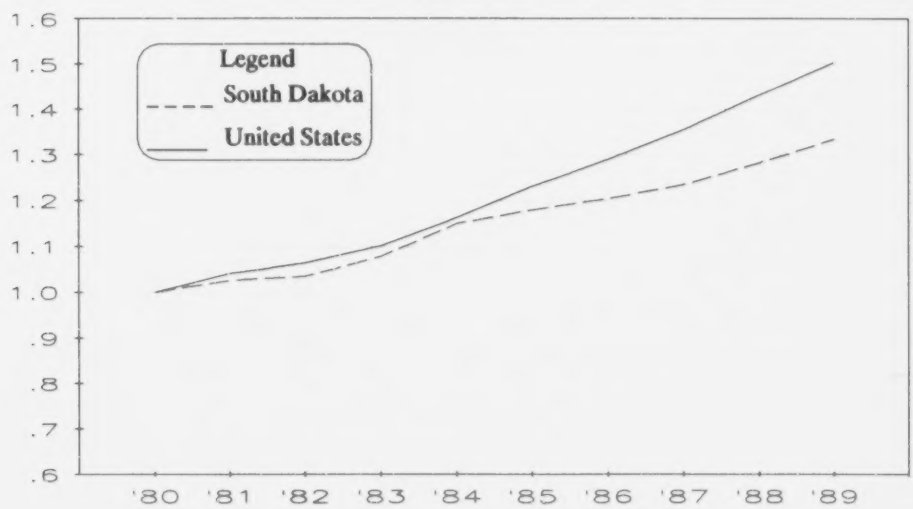
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate Industry
Monthly Nonfarm Wage and Salaried Employment
Indexed to January 1980



SD Services Boom Not as Loud as Nation's

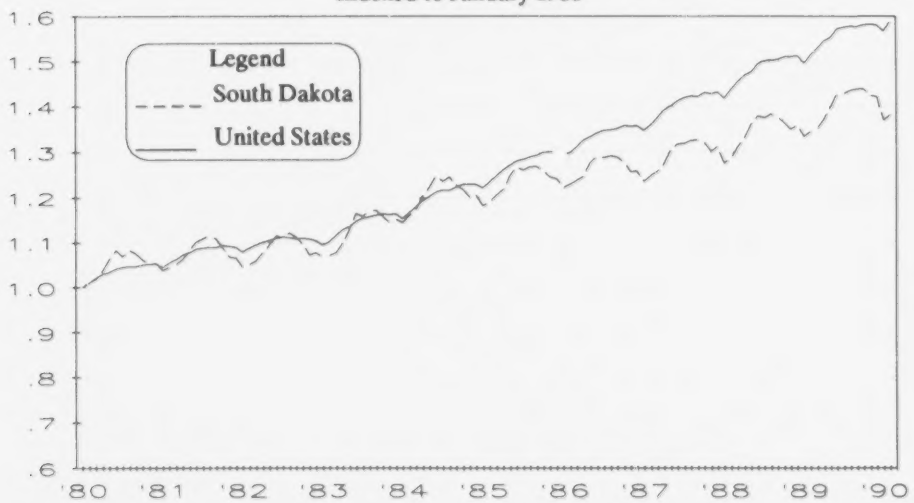
In the services industry, South Dakota tracked with the nation quite closely until 1985, when the United States' lead began widening. While the state has also noted continual growth in this industry, it has not been as outstanding as the nation's. Contributing to the state's slower growth in this industry has been its more modest increases in population. A growing population base which demands new and additional services is at the heart of this industry's health. This industry is also closely tied to personal income levels, where South Dakota has also not fared as well as the nation in this decade.

Services Industry
Annual Average Nonfarm Wage and Salaried Employment
Indexed to 1980



The graph of monthly levels on the following page shows quite clearly that the state's seasonal highs and lows in services employment are more extreme than are the nation's.

Services Industry
Monthly Nonfarm Wage and Salaried Employment
Indexed to January 1980

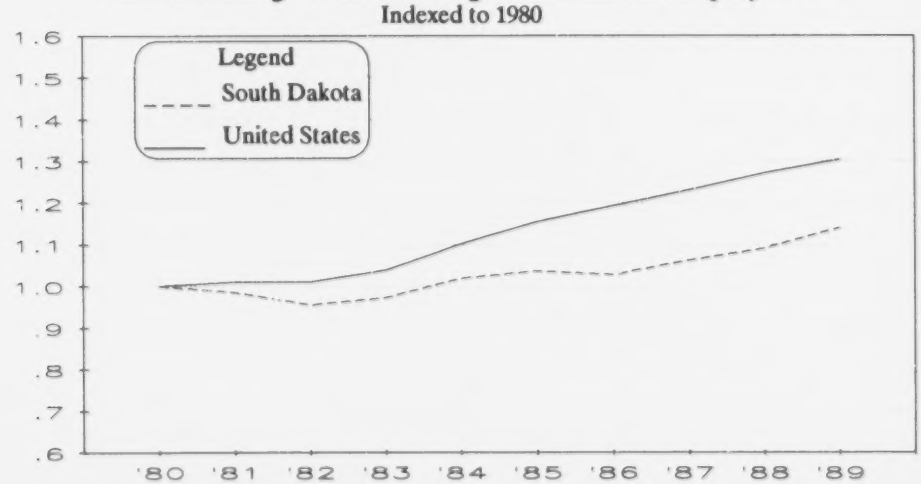


US Outpaces SD in Retail Trade

Lackluster growth in population and personal income also impeded South Dakota's growth in the retail trade industry, where growth was greater nationally for much of the decade. Growth in this industry is driven by increasing consumer demand, and a growing population and income levels are two of the major factors behind increasing consumer demand.

South Dakota has fallen even farther behind in this economy-mirroring industry. The 1982 recession was even harder on the state's retail trade industry, and its recovery in the two succeeding years was slower. But the gap really began widening in 1985, with the state's retail trade employment dropping in 1986. Since 1986, the state has again paralleled the nation's growth rate in this industry--but still falls well below on the index.

Retail Trade Employment
Annual Average Nonfarm Wage and Salaried Employment
Indexed to 1980



In summary, this "apples-to-apples" comparison of the state's and nation's nonfarm employment levels which indexing them allows shows that South Dakota has faired a little worse in some areas, but has also shone in other areas. All in all, the state has tracked quite closely to the nation's performance on the index, with a growth rate which has run more parallel again since 1987.

South Dakota Labor Market In April

In April, nonfarm wage and salaried employment in South Dakota continued its expansion from year-earlier levels, by posting a job increase of 6,000 (or 2.2 percent) and establishing an employment level of 277,300.

The retail trade industry gained the largest number of jobs, with the addition of 2,300 over the year. Although most divisions in retail trade showed job growth, the divisions claiming the majority of the increase were food stores; general merchandise/accessory stores; automotive dealers and gas stations; and eating and drinking establishments. The eating and drinking establishment division growth may be partially attributed to new and expanding businesses related to the gambling in Deadwood.

The services industry placed second in job growth, with an over-the-year gain of 1,400 jobs. The medical and health division posted the largest job growth (700 jobs), with hospitals capturing 400 of the increase. Other divisions noting job growth were: business services; social services; and miscellaneous services.

The finance, insurance and real estate industry increased 1,000 jobs from year-ago employment levels. All divisions in this industry showed job growth, however non-depository institutions showed the largest growth with the addition of 600 jobs.

Government employment grew by 1,000 from year-ago levels. Federal government employment increases may be mostly attributed to the hiring of census workers. State government employment increased by 300 jobs and local government increased by 400 jobs.

The construction industry employment increased by 400 jobs from year-ago levels, which may be partially attributed to continued favorable weather conditions.

Month-To-Month Employment Changes

The April 1990 nonfarm employment level of 277,300 jobs is the highest April level recorded since the inception, in 1939, of the Current Employment Statistics survey on which nonfarm employment estimates are based. Over-the-month employment increases were noted in all industries with the exception of government, which declined 200 jobs.

The retail trade industry noted over-the-month job growth of 2,000 jobs. The eating and drinking establishment division accounted for 1,600 of these 2,000 jobs. The springtime weather brings the reopening of businesses such as dairy bars and drive-in restaurants. Miscellaneous retail trade employers added 300 jobs from month-ago employment levels by starting to beef up personnel as the tourist season begins.

Brisk seasonal expansion occurred in the construction industry during the month of April as employers reported healthy job gains of 1,300. This job increase was as seasonally expected from March to April, based on historical patterns. Highway and street construction employment increased by 600 jobs; special trade contractors by 500 jobs; and building construction by 200 jobs. Building permits as published in the media show that current construction projects range from building houses and garages to installing saunas and windows.

The hotels and amusement division of the services industry is also starting to beef up personnel in anticipation of the tourist season. The 400 job increase in the services industry was offset somewhat by the decrease in personal/business services; social services; and membership organizations.

The addition of 300 in the manufacturing industry was distributed throughout various establishments within this industry. The wholesale trade job growth of 300 may be partially attributed to increased workloads for establishments that buy petroleum (such as gasoline and diesel) in bulk and sell them to farmers for spring planting.

The April unemployment rate in South Dakota was 3.7 percent, compared with the March 1990 and April 1989 rate of 4.0 percent. Approximately 348,100 South Dakotans were employed in April, with 13,200 being unemployed. The number of South Dakotans unemployed decreased from the March 1990 and April 1989 level by 1,000. The reduction in unemployment from March to April may be partially attributed to tourism-related hiring in trade and services, together with accelerated activity in construction, agriculture, and ag-related businesses.

Persons in the Labor Force: Employed/Unemployed

	April 1990 (1)				April 1989			
	Labor Force(2)	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force(2)	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
United States	123,816,000	117,359,000	6,457,000	5.2(3)	122,576,000	116,347,000	6,229,000	5.1(3)
South Dakota	361,300	348,100	13,200	3.7	359,000	344,800	14,200	4.0
Sioux Falls MSA	74,647	72,461	2,186	2.9	74,197	71,748	2,449	3.3
Rapid City MSA	39,796	38,178	1,618	4.1	39,140	37,524	1,616	4.1
Aurora	1,472	1,451	21	1.4	1,449	1,431	18	1.2
Beadle	9,679	9,235	444	4.6	9,525	8,973	552	5.8
Bennett	1,696	1,649	47	2.8	1,597	1,571	26	1.6
Bon Homme	3,592	3,556	36	1.0	3,468	3,448	20	.6
Brookings	15,044	14,534	510	3.4	15,080	14,388	692	4.6
Brown	19,501	18,446	1,055	5.4	20,458	19,164	1,294	6.3
Brule	2,828	2,749	79	2.8	2,730	2,671	59	2.2
Buffalo	461	440	21	4.6	482	432	50	10.4
Butte	3,699	3,554	145	3.9	3,619	3,415	204	5.6
Campbell	1,073	1,033	40	3.7	1,065	1,050	15	1.4
Charles Mix	3,915	3,775	140	3.6	3,853	3,693	160	4.2
Clark	1,994	1,909	85	4.3	1,948	1,858	90	4.6
Clay	7,216	6,908	308	4.3	7,102	6,844	258	3.6
Codington	12,656	12,235	421	3.3	12,431	11,912	519	4.2
Corson	1,411	1,245	166	11.8	1,509	1,314	195	12.9
Custer	3,230	3,170	60	1.9	3,254	3,149	105	3.2
Davison	9,748	9,559	189	1.9	9,513	9,342	171	1.8
Day	3,358	3,182	176	5.2	3,377	3,221	156	4.6
Deuel	2,197	2,084	113	5.1	2,280	2,146	134	5.9
Dewey	2,141	1,986	155	7.2	2,025	1,931	94	4.6
Douglas	1,663	1,627	36	2.2	1,734	1,681	53	3.1
Edmunds	2,098	2,019	79	3.8	2,162	2,044	118	5.5
Fall River	3,325	3,204	121	3.6	3,368	3,237	131	3.9
Faulk	1,188	1,165	23	1.9	1,187	1,176	11	.9
Grant	4,394	4,228	166	3.8	4,351	4,136	215	4.9
Gregory	2,339	2,292	47	2.0	2,429	2,359	70	2.9
Haakon	1,188	1,139	49	4.1	1,137	1,113	24	2.1
Hamlin	2,580	2,482	98	3.8	2,465	2,345	120	4.9
Hand	1,992	1,969	23	1.2	2,034	1,970	64	3.1
Hanson	1,614	1,578	36	2.2	1,523	1,495	28	1.8
Harding	786	767	19	2.4	773	766	7	.9
Hughes	8,527	8,370	157	1.8	8,530	8,313	217	2.5
Hutchinson	4,156	4,007	149	3.6	4,312	4,156	156	3.6
Hyde	887	861	26	2.9	955	889	66	6.9
Jackson	1,666	1,594	72	4.3	1,548	1,498	50	3.2

Persons in the Labor Force: Employed/Unemployed

	April 1990 (1)				April 1989			
	Labor Force(2)	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force(2)	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Jerauld	1,253	1,217	36	2.9	1,220	1,167	53	4.3
Jones	647	607	40	6.2	618	594	24	3.9
Kingsbury	2,926	2,764	162	5.5	2,912	2,792	120	4.1
Lake	5,458	5,067	391	7.2	5,260	5,039	221	4.2
Lawrence	10,987	10,496	491	4.5	10,805	10,200	605	5.6
Lincoln	7,018	6,873	145	2.1	7,448	7,163	285	3.8
Lyman	1,444	1,382	62	4.3	1,475	1,418	57	3.9
McCook	2,930	2,851	79	2.7	2,933	2,810	123	4.2
McPherson	1,538	1,483	55	3.6	1,522	1,448	74	4.9
Marshall	2,489	2,344	145	5.8	2,303	2,248	55	2.4
Meade	9,059	8,625	434	4.8	9,019	8,647	372	4.1
Mellette	818	786	32	3.9	825	810	15	1.8
Miner	1,719	1,634	85	4.9	1,665	1,626	39	2.3
Minnehaha	74,647	72,461	2,186	2.9	74,197	71,748	2,449	3.3
Moody	3,205	3,143	62	1.9	3,315	3,188	127	3.8
Pennington	39,796	38,178	1,618	4.1	39,140	37,524	1,616	4.1
Perkins	2,389	2,342	47	2.0	2,305	2,268	37	1.6
Potter	1,512	1,461	51	3.4	1,487	1,463	24	1.6
Roberts	4,687	4,419	268	5.7	4,591	4,319	272	5.9
Sanborn	1,134	1,055	79	7.0	1,122	1,072	50	4.5
Shannon	2,263	2,127	136	6.0	2,273	2,102	171	7.5
Spink	3,596	3,511	85	2.4	3,571	3,505	66	1.8
Stanley	1,497	1,437	60	4.0	1,559	1,489	70	4.5
Sully	778	763	15	1.9	801	775	26	3.2
Todd	2,943	2,722	221	7.5	2,778	2,627	151	5.4
Tripp	3,406	3,302	104	3.1	3,395	3,283	112	3.3
Turner	4,592	4,494	98	2.1	4,348	4,208	140	3.2
Union	5,970	5,640	330	5.5	5,613	5,339	274	4.9
Walworth	2,944	2,861	83	2.8	2,951	2,835	116	3.9
Yankton	11,264	10,988	276	2.5	11,134	10,876	258	2.3
Ziebach	1,122	1,090	32	2.9	1,146	1,065	81	7.1

(1) Preliminary data subject to revision.
(2) Labor force estimates include employed and unemployed civilians 16 years old and older by place of residence.
(3) The seasonally-adjusted rates which were announced by the national government were 5.4 and 5.3. The data in this table are not seasonally-adjusted.

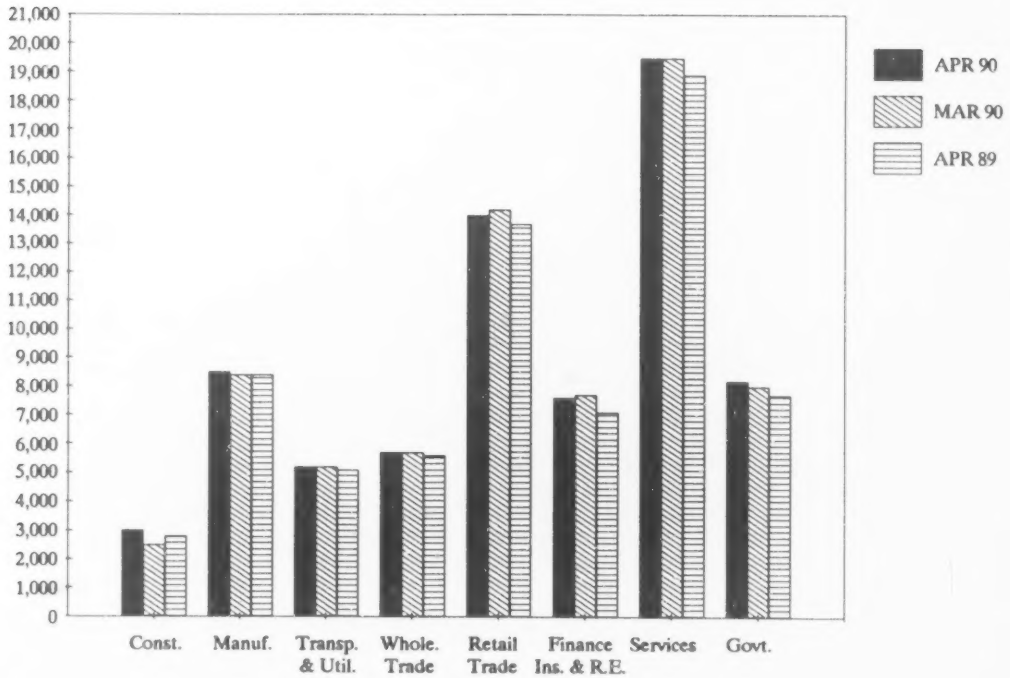
SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

South Dakota Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment (Jobs by Industry)

	April 1990	Mar. 1990	April 1989	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
TOTAL	277,300	272,900	271,300	1.6	2.2
TOTAL PRIVATE	214,400	209,800	209,400	2.2	2.4
GOODS PRODUCING	44,000	42,300	43,300	4.0	1.6
MINING	2,700	2,600	2,600	3.8	3.8
CONSTRUCTION	9,400	8,100	9,000	16.0	4.4
MANUFACTURING	31,900	31,600	31,700	.9	.6
Durable Goods	18,100	17,700	17,700	2.3	2.3
Fabricated Metals & Machinery	10,800	10,700	10,500	.9	2.9
Nondurable Goods	13,800	13,900	14,000	-.7	-1.4
Food & Kindred Products	7,400	7,400	7,500	.0	-1.3
Printing & Publishing	3,000	3,100	3,000	-3.2	.0
SERVICE PRODUCING	233,300	230,600	228,000	1.2	2.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	13,300	13,100	13,500	1.5	-1.5
Transportation	7,900	7,800	8,100	1.3	-2.5
Communication	3,100	3,100	3,100	.0	.0
Electric/Gas/Sanitary Services	2,300	2,300	2,300	.0	.0
TRADE	73,700	71,400	71,600	3.2	2.9
Wholesale Trade	18,400	18,100	18,600	1.7	-1.1
Durable Goods	8,300	8,200	8,500	1.2	-2.4
Nondurable Goods	10,100	9,900	10,100	2.0	.0
Retail Trade	55,300	53,300	53,000	3.8	4.3
General Merchandise/Apparel	9,300	9,400	9,200	-1.1	1.1
Food Stores	8,600	8,500	8,100	1.2	6.2
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	16,200	16,200	15,200	.0	6.6
Finance	10,800	10,800	9,900	.0	9.1
Depository Institutions	6,000	5,900	5,700	1.7	5.3
Nondepository Institutions	4,200	4,200	3,600	.0	16.7
Insurance Carriers, Agents & Brokers	3,900	3,800	3,700	2.6	5.4
SERVICES	67,200	66,800	65,800	.6	2.1
Hotels/Motels & Amusements	7,700	7,100	7,700	8.5	.0
Personal and Business	8,000	8,200	7,800	-2.4	2.6
Medical and Health Services	26,000	26,000	25,300	.0	2.8
Hospitals	11,900	11,900	11,500	.0	3.5
Health Services, other than Hospitals	14,000	14,000	13,800	.0	1.4
Educational Services	5,300	5,300	5,300	.0	.0
Social Services	5,000	5,300	4,700	-5.7	6.4
Membership Organizations	8,100	8,200	8,100	-1.2	.0
GOVERNMENT	62,900	63,100	61,900	-.3	1.6
Federal	11,500	11,400	11,200	.9	2.7
State	16,600	16,900	16,300	-1.8	1.8
State Education	8,300	8,500	7,800	-2.4	6.4
Local	34,800	34,800	34,400	.0	1.2
Local Education	20,600	20,700	20,400	-.5	1.0

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Sioux Falls MSA Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment (Jobs by Industry)

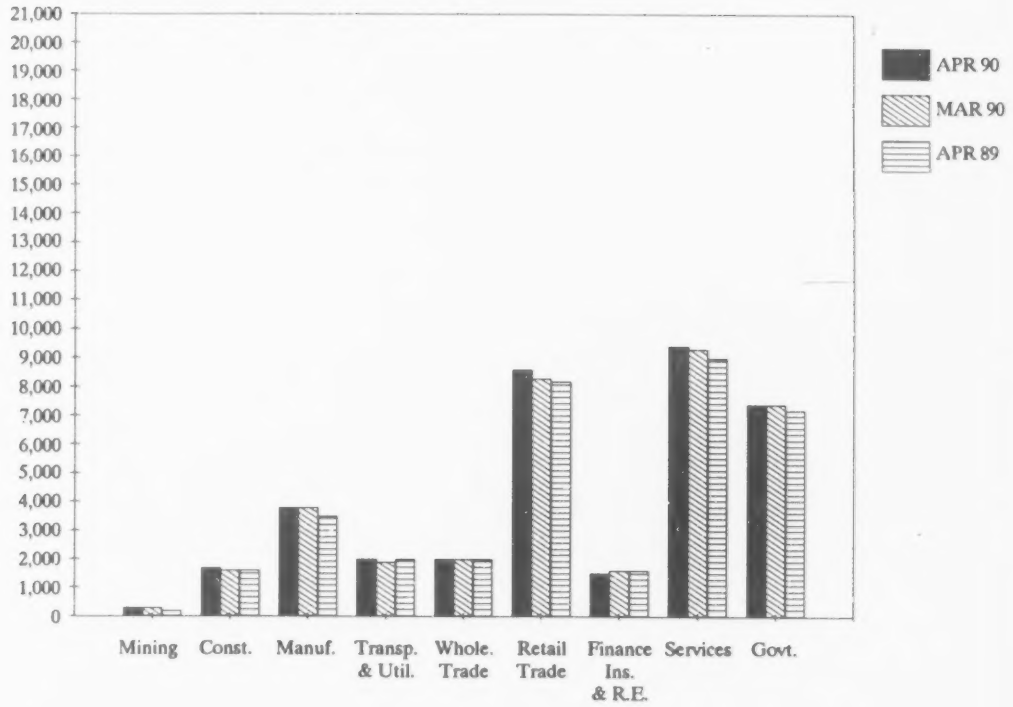


	April. 1990	Mar. 1990	April 1989	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
TOTAL	71,800	71,300	69,300	.7	3.6
GOODS PRODUCING	11,600	11,000	11,200	5.5	3.6
*MINING					
CONSTRUCTION	3,000	2,500	2,800	20.0	7.1
MANUFACTURING	8,500	8,400	8,400	1.2	1.2
SERVICE PRODUCING	60,200	60,300	58,100	-.2	3.6
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	5,200	5,200	5,100	.0	2.0
TRADE	19,700	19,900	19,300	-1.0	2.1
Wholesale	5,700	5,700	5,600	.0	1.8
Retail	14,000	14,200	13,700	-1.4	2.2
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	7,600	7,700	7,100	-1.3	7.0
SERVICES	19,500	19,500	18,900	.0	3.2
GOVERNMENT	8,200	8,000	7,700	2.5	6.5

*Mining employment not published, employment less than 100.

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Rapid City MSA Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment (Jobs by Industry)



	April 1990	Mar. 1990	April 1989	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
TOTAL	36,700	36,200	35,300	1.4	4.0
GOODS PRODUCING	5,800	5,700	5,300	1.8	9.4
MINING	300	300	200	0.0	50.0
CONSTRUCTION	1,700	1,600	1,600	6.3	6.3
MANUFACTURING	3,800	3,800	3,500	0.0	8.6
SERVICE PRODUCING	30,900	30,500	30,000	1.3	3.0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2,000	1,900	2,000	5.3	0.0
TRADE	10,600	10,300	10,200	2.9	3.9
Wholesale	2,000	2,000	2,000	0.0	0.0
Retail	8,600	8,300	8,200	3.6	4.9
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	1,500	1,600	1,600	-6.3	-6.3
SERVICES	9,400	9,300	9,000	1.1	4.4
GOVERNMENT	7,400	7,400	7,200	0.0	2.8

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTE: The figures on pages 6, 7 and 8 include almost all nonfarm wage earners (full and part-time) but exclude the self-employed. They are derived from a monthly sample survey of South Dakota non-agricultural establishments and include workers on the payroll for the week including the 12th of the month. These tables compare the current month's employment totals of the major industry groups to the totals of the previous month and year.

Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in South Dakota

	Number of Production Workers			Average Weekly Hours		
	April 1990	Mar. 1990	April 1989	April 1990	Mar. 1990	April. 1989
Total Private	178,100	173,900	173,400	32.6	32.1	33.2
Mining	2,300	2,200	2,200	41.6	41.4	41.6
Construction	7,400	6,300	7,100	38.6	36.7	40.4
Manufacturing	24,100	23,700	23,700	39.0	40.4	42.6
Transportation & Public Utilities	11,200	11,000	11,200	38.1	37.9	38.0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	64,500	62,200	62,700	30.4	29.4	30.5
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	12,200	12,200	11,300	35.7	34.4	37.0
Services	56,400	56,300	55,200	29.5	29.1	29.3

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Hourly Earnings		
	April 1990	Mar. 1990	April 1989	April 1990	Mar. 1990	April 1989
Total Private	$255.58	$249.42	$251.99	$7.84	$7.77	$7.59
Mining	507.10	517.50	508.35	12.19	12.50	12.22
Construction	388.32	375.81	394.30	10.06	10.24	9.76
Manufacturing	330.72	340.17	350.60	8.48	8.42	8.23
Transportation & Public Utilities	425.20	422.59	414.20	11.16	11.15	10.90
Wholesale & Retail Trade	198.82	186.40	189.71	6.54	6.34	6.22
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	284.89	275.20	292.30	7.98	8.00	7.90
Services	221.84	216.80	210.67	7.52	7.45	7.19

Hours and Earnings of Manufacturing Production Workers in MSAs

	Number of Manufacturing Production Workers			Average Weekly Hours		
	April 1990	Mar. 1990	April 1989	April 1990	Mar. 1990	April 1989
Sioux Falls MSA	6,100	5,800	6,100	45.1	45.4	45.1
Rapid City MSA	2,700	2,900	2,600	41.9	41.8	44.0

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Hourly Earnings		
	April 1990	Mar. 1990	April. 1989	April 1990	Mar. 1990	April 1989
Sioux Falls MSA	$386.51	$394.53	$368.92	$8.57	$8.69	$8.18
Rapid City MSA	398.47	395.43	368.72	9.51	9.46	8.38

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor, in cooperation with the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTE: Average hours and earnings data are derived from reports of payrolls and hours for production and related workers in manufacturing and mining, construction workers in construction, and non-supervisory employees in private service-producing industries. The data cover full and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for the payroll period that includes the 12th of the month. The earnings figures are "gross" figures. They may be higher than employer wage rates, since they reflect premium pay for shift differentials and overtime work. The hours figures relate to the hours for which pay was received; this is different from scheduled or standard work hours.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed[1]

	April 1990	Mar. 1990	April 1989
Sex, Total	2,039	3,060	2,642
Male	1,201	2,097	1,644
Female	838	963	998
Race, Total	2,039	3,060	2,642
White	1,824	2,771	2,409
Nonwhite	215	289	233
Age, Total	2,039	3,060	2,642
Under 45	1,388	2,142	1,949
Over 45	651	918	693
[2]Industry, Total	2,039	3,060	2,642
Mining	67	113	94
Construction	399	917	601
Manufacturing	637	780	806
Transportation & Public Utilities	86	149	156
Trade	349	472	437
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	83	79	61
Services	337	434	385
Government	81	116	102
[2]Occupation	2,039	3,060	2,642
Professional & Managerial	258	306	281
Clerical and Sales	309	338	375
Services	210	324	248
Processing	84	118	60
Machine Trade	88	111	101
Benchwork	323	366	501
Structural Work	512	1,050	725
Other	255	447	351
Duration of Current Unemployment			
Total	2,039	3,060	2,642
1-2 Weeks	315	369	524
3-4 Weeks	221	294	244
5-14 Weeks	810	1,574	1,011
15 Weeks & Over	693	823	863

[1]The insured unemployed are those persons who had worked for employers covered by South Dakota's Unemployment Insurance laws and who filed claims for unemployment insurance compensation during the week including the 12th of the month.

[2]Refers to industry and occupation involvement prior to unemployment.

Selected Labor Department Activities

	April 1990	Mar. 1990	April 1989	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
A. Initial Claims	1,065	1,343	1,380	-20.7	-22.8
B. Weeks Compensated	8,775	12,777	11,333	-31.3	-22.6
C. Amount of Benefit Payments	$798,024	$1,564,416	$1,029,920	-49.0	-22.5
D. Unemployment Trust Fund Bal.	$43,464,992	$42,208,382	$41,940,600	3.0	3.6
JOB SERVICE					
E. Applicants Available (New and Renewal)	4,845	6,616	4,918	-26.8	-1.5
F. Nonfarm Placements	4,103	4,132	3,724	-.7	10.2
G. Nonfarm Job Openings	11,421	10,734	7,809	6.4	46.3

Selected Labor Department Activities (Continued)

	April 1990
H. Unemployment Insurance Savings	$115,042

The data above and in the table at the bottom of page 10 are taken from the records of the state unemployment insurance program and the state Job Service system.

A. Initial Claims - The total number of first claims for unemployment compensation.

B. Weeks Compensated - The total number of weeks for which claimants received compensation.

C. Amount of Benefit Payments - The total amount of money paid to claimants.

D. Unemployment Trust Fund Balance - The fund to which all required Unemployment Insurance taxes are paid and from which all benefits to claimants are paid.

E. Applicants Available (New and Renewals) - The total number of different individuals who registered or renewed their registrations for work at Job Service offices in the state.

F. Nonag Placements - A count of the number of times during the month that Job Service applicants were hired by nonfarm employers.

G. Nonag Job Openings - A count of new job openings received during the month by South Dakota Job Service offices from nonfarm employers.

H. Unemployment Insurance Savings - Estimated dollars saved due to placement of Unemployment Insurance claimants in jobs by Job Service.

From the Division of Labor and Management

In a worker's compensation case, who gets to pick the doctor, the employer or the employee? Historically under South Dakota's worker's compensation law, the employer has had the right to chose the treating doctor, but this will change on July 1, 1990. On that date, a new law will take effect which will give the employee the right to choose the medical practitioner for the purpose of treating job-related injuries. The 1990 session of the legislature passed Senate Bill 194 which provides for this change. The new law contains a number of particulars, and should be referred to for complete information. Some of the highlights are as follows.

The law gives an employee the right to make the initial selection of the medical practitioner or surgeon from among all licensed medical practitioners or surgeons in the state. A medical practitioner is defined as a health care provider licensed and practicing under Title 36 of the South Dakota code. Title 36 covers licensor of professions for the treatment of human ills. The employee must notify the employer of his choice of medical practitioner as soon as reasonably possible. If the employee desires to change his choice of medical practitioner, he must obtain approval, in writing, from the employer.

The medical practitioner treating the employee must provide a report to the employer within fourteen (14) days following the first treatment. If the treatment continues, further reports must be provided at thirty (30) day intervals. No relevant information in connection with the treatment of the work-related injury will be considered a privileged communication, and must be made available to the employer. If a medical practitioner willfully fails to make any of the reports required, there may be a forfeiture of the practitioners right to payment for services rendered.

It should be noted that under SDCL 62-7-1, the employer still has the right to a second opinion. The employer may arrange for an examination of the injured employee by a medical practitioner of its choice. This can be done as soon as practicable after the injury, and also one week later. After that, examinations may be arranged not more often than once every four weeks. SDCL 62-7-3 provides that if the employee refuses to submit to such an examination, his right to compensation payments will be temporarily suspended.

As always, safety in the work place is the most important factor in preventing worker's compensation claims. Your insurer should be able to give you information concerning safety programs. Anytime you have questions, feel free to contact the Division of Labor and Management. The number is 773-3681.

South Dakota
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Selected National Economic Indicators

	April 1990	Mar. 1990	April 1989	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
Consumer Price Index[1]	128.9	128.7	123.1	0.2	4.7
Industrial Production Index[2]	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Retail Trade Sales[3]	$148,640	$149,547	$143,732	-0.6	3.4
Privately Owned Housing Starts[4]	1,245	1,321	1,341	-5.8	-7.2
Bank Prime Loan Rate[5]	10.00	10.00	11.50	0.00	-13.04

[1]U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. 1982-84 = 100.
[2]Federal Reserve Board. Includes manufacturing, mining and utilities. 1977 = 100. Seasonally adjusted.
[3]Bureau of the Census. Adjusted for seasonal, holiday and trading day differences. In millions of dollars.
[4]Bureau of the Census. Includes new, privately owned housing units started. Seasonally adjusted annual rates. In thousands of units.
[5]Federal Reserve Board. Annual rates.